

SOCIAL SERVICE BLOCK GRANT (SSBG) FY18 FUNDING ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

In partnership with the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Human Services division leads an annual process to develop funding allocation recommendations for federally funded, locally distributed Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) funding. The funding recommendations are developed through a process that includes the Human Services Technical Committee and Community Initiatives Committee and leads to funding allocation recommendations approved by the MAG Regional Council. Once approved through the MAG process, the funding allocation recommendations are forwarded to DES for allocation.

GENERAL PROCESS

Spring

- The Human Services Technical Committee (HSTC) reviews the process from the previous year and makes changes, as necessary, to improve the process. If major changes are recommended to the process, the revised process is recommended to the Human Services and Community Initiatives Committee (HSCIC) for approval.
- Process materials are updated to reflect any approved changes.

Fall

- DES confirms that MAG will act as an informal conduit for local input into Arizona's Social Services Block Grant Plan for the State Fiscal Year.
- DES informs MAG staff of the funding levels and the deadline for the recommendation.
- HSTC members work with MAG staff to identify experts in each of the four service areas:
 - Adults, Families, and Children
 - Developmentally Disabled Individuals
 - Elderly
 - Persons with Disabilities
- Staff confirms experts who will represent each service area. Experts are asked to provide written answers to questions from the HSTC specific to the service area they represent. The following questions will be given to each expert for their response:
 - What changes have occurred to services, in your service area, over the past year?
 - What changes have occurred in need, in your service area, over the past year?
 - What changes have occurred in funding, in your service area, over the past year?

- Please describe the outcomes and effectiveness of SSBG funding for this service area in the past twelve months.
- Does your service area receive major funding from other funding sources? If so, please provide information on the other funding sources. Could SSBG funds be used to leverage other services?
- What would happen if the service area does not receive SSBG funding?
- Please provide the Committee with key data for your service area, showing needs and impact of SSBG funding.
- Presentations are scheduled with experts, each expert is asked to address the HSTC on the questions stated above, as well as provide additional information pertinent to their service area. Experts will be given 20 minutes to present on their service area. Time will be given for questions and answers after the presentation.

Winter

- HSTC develops funding allocation recommendations based on the written answers to the questions, the expert presentation, data submitted by experts, and other key factors that arise during the expert presentations.
- The funding recommendations are posted on the MAG website and distributed to the community to allow for public input.
- Recommendations (including any public input) are moved to the Human Services and Community Initiatives Committee (HSCIC) for recommended approval. Draft funding allocation recommendations are provided to the DES SSBG Coordinator. The HSCIC then recommends approval to the MAG Management Committee and finally to MAG Regional Council for approval. This step typically occurs in December.
- Debrief and repeat process annually.

PUBLIC INPUT

The opportunity for public input is incorporated throughout the process. All Human Services Committee members follow Open Meeting Law and are open to the public to attend. An opportunity under each agenda item, and “Call to the Public” is given for members of the public to provide input on the planning process as well as on the funding allocation recommendations. In addition, once the Human Services Technical Committee recommends approval of the draft funding allocation recommendations, they are posted on the MAG website at www.azmag.gov and distributed through the Human Services distribution lists for public input prior to the recommendation going to the Human Services and Community Initiative Committee for recommendation. Any public input received, either during the Committee meeting or otherwise, is shared with the Committee prior to approval.